



Epiclesis

An Ancient-Future Faith Community

Liturgy

April 29, 2012 (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

GATHERING

Infant Dedication

Jesus said, “Bring the little children to Me,
for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” – Mark 10:14

Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth.

**Worship the LORD with gladness;
come before Him with joyful singing.**

Know that the LORD Himself is God.

It is He who made us and not we ourselves.

We are His people, the sheep of His pasture.

Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise;

Give thanks to Him and bless His name.

For the LORD is good:

His lovingkindness is everlasting;

and His faithfulness continues to all generations.

– Psalm 100



The Good Shepherd, Mausoleum of Galla Placidia, 5th Century



Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down

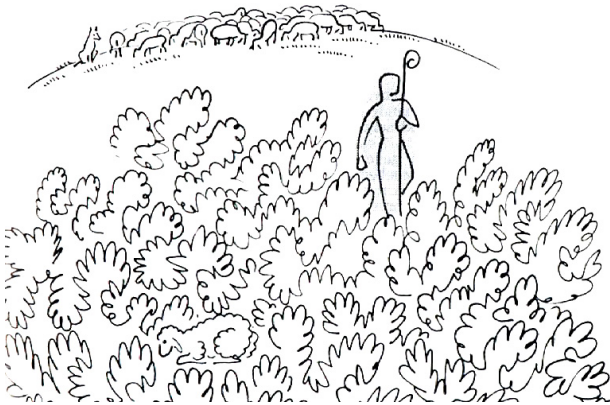
Come, let us worship and bow down,
Let us kneel before the Lord, our God, our Maker.
(Repeat)

For He is our God,
And we are the people of His pasture,;
And the sheep of His hand,
Yes, the sheep of His hand.

CCLI Song No. 27329 ©1980 Maranatha Praise, Inc. Dave Doherty, based on Psalm 95:6-7

INVOCATION

Prayers of welcome and praise



Parable of the Lost Sheep, Annie Vallotton

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Arrangement, Gary Jones. Solo, Roberta Snyder.
Public domain. Words, attrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859.



PROFESSION OF FAITH

Reading: *Psalms 23*

I Call You Faithful

I call You faithful, Lord, You are faithful;
You are so faithful to me.

I call you faithful, Lord, You are faithful;
Faithful You are, and faithful You'll be.

2. Jireh

3. Healer

4. Holy



The Good Shepherd, Eric Gill, 1926

I call You Shepherd; Lord, You're my Shepherd;
You're the Good Shepherd to me.

I call You Shepherd; Lord, You're my Shepherd;
Shepherd You are, and Shepherd You'll be.

CCLI Song No. 402030; ©1990 Dawn Treader Music | Shepherd's Fold Music; Bobby Price and Kevin Walker. CCLI License # 3097801

PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us.

And we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

*How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees
a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help?*

Little children, let us love,

not in word or speech, but with actions and in truth.

*This is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus
Christ, and love one another, just as He commanded us.*

And all who keep His commandments abide in Him,
and He abides in them.

— from 1 John 3:16-24

[Silence]



Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (verse 2)

We are Thine, Thou dost befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
Keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.

[Silence]

Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name;
And deliver us and forgive our sins, for Your name's sake.
**So we, Your people and the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to
You forever; to all generations we will proclaim Your praise.**

– Psalm 79:9,13

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us (verse 3)

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus! Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

Public domain. Words, attrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These are His sure words of promise:

I am the Good Shepherd;

the Good Shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.

I am the Good Shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me,
even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father;
and I lay down My life for the sheep.

My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish;

No one will snatch them out of My hand.

– from John 10:11-28

Thanks be to God!



TIME OF OFFERING

Gracious Lord and loving Shepherd, through Your goodness and mercies You have blessed us with all we have, and all we are. With gratitude we joyfully give back to You what is Yours. As covenant people, the sheep of Your pasture, we lift our lives up to You in worship and praise.

You Have Been Good

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.
O Lord, Your steadfast love
And tender mercy have been our salvation.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, Almighty God,
Father unchanging, upright and holy.

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful, You have been good.

CCLI Song #59452 ©1988 Ariose Music. Twila Paris.

THE WORD

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18



THE TABLE

Remembering the Body of Christ

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

The Lord's Prayer (sung)

Our Father in heaven,
Hallowed by Your Name.
Your kingdom come, Your will be done,
On earth as in heav'n.
Give us today our daily bread;
Forgive us our sins
As we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
And the glory are Yours.
Now and forever, Amen.

Setting by Eric Wyse; ©2000 Wildgrove Music (BMI)

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

My Shepherd will supply my need:
Jehovah is His Name;
In pastures fresh He makes me feed,
Beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back
When I forsake His ways,
And leads me, for His mercy's sake,
In paths of truth and grace.



The Good Shepherd, Corinne Vonaesch, 1998



When I walk through the shades of death
His presence is my stay;
One word of His supporting breath
Drives all my fears away.
His hand, in sight of all my foes,
Doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows,
His oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God
Attend me all my days;
O may Thy house be my abode,
And all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
While others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest,
But like a child at home.

Public domain. Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Hymn Tune: RESIGNATION
Setting: Ellen Koehler ©2010

SENDING FORTH

The Life of the Body

You Have Been Good (reprise)

For by Your hand we have been fed,
And by Your Spirit we have been led.
O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful to all generations.

O Lord, You have been good;
You have been faithful, You have been good.

CCLI Song #59452 ©1988 Ariose Music. Twila Paris.



Benediction:

Go forth in joy and hope to love and serve the Lord in all that you do.

We are sent in the name of the risen Christ.

May the God of peace, who raised to life the Great Shepherd of the sheep, make us ready to do His will in every good thing, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

—based on Hebrews 13:20-21

A thought about worship from the Ancient Fathers –

“Feed us, Your children, as sheep. Master, fill us With righteousness from Your own pasture. Instructor, give us food on Your holy mountain, the church, which towers in the air, is above the clouds, and touches heaven. "And I will be," He says, "their Shepherd," and will be as near to them as clothes to their skin. He wants to save my flesh by enveloping it in the robe of immortality, and He has anointed my body. "They shall call Me," He says, "and I will say, Here am I." You heard sooner than I expected, Master. "And if they pass over, they shall not slip," says the Lord. For we who are passing over to eternal life will not fall into corruption because He will sustain us. For so He has said and so He has willed. Our Instructor is righteously good. "I came not," He says, "to be ministered unto, but to minister." Therefore, He is introduced in the Gospel as "wearied," because He toiled for us and promised "to give His life as a ransom for many." For Christ alone is the Good Shepherd. He is generous and gives us the greatest of all gifts, His own life. He is extremely good and loving to men, while, when He might have been Lord, He wished to become a brother to humanity. He was so good that He died for us.”

– Clement of Alexandria

Lectionary for next week: Acts 8:26-40; Psalm 22:25-31;

1 John 4:7-21; John 15:1-8

Epiclesis: An Ancient-Future Faith Community

www.Epiclesis.org | Info line: (916)572-9113

Sunday mornings at The Carmichael Chapel, 4600 Winding Way
(Corner of Winding Way and Pasadena), Sacramento, CA 95841.

Informal gathering: 10:00 AM; Worship at 10:30 AM.

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